

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WHADDON PARISH COUNCIL

Held: Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> November 2017, at 7.30pm at School Room, Whaddon Chapel, Stock Lane, Whaddon.

Present: Cllrs Sir Beville Stanier Bt (Chairman), Peter Lemagnen, Graham Stewart, Derek White. Cllr John Chilver – BCC.

Members of the Public: Jenny Groom, Clare and Lucy Masterton, Mr John Mortimer – Editor WQ.

Clerk: Suzanne Lindsey

### 1. PUBLIC SESSION

Clare and Lucy Masterton explained that they felt it was too dangerous to walk children to school along Stratford Rd, from the properties located by the traffic calming along the side of the road where there is no footpath, and subsequently along the pavement from the Whaddon Hall entrance up the High St., due to speeding traffic. This was despite public policy pressure for children to walk to school; they felt it was not safe and drove children in the car. Although speed limits were 30mph and 40mph, cars were travelling far faster, and they felt it was reckless to walk with young children; a speeding car had clipped a child's coat hanging over Lucy's arm with a wing mirror. Cllr Stanier (Chairman) commented that unfortunately budget was very tight and often policy required some fatalities to have taken place before prompt and decisive action to improve safety could be taken. Cllr Stewart asked Cllr Chilver to take this complaint back to BCC Highways department and ask for their help. He mentioned speeding cars crashing into the ditch, large agricultural vehicles travelling too fast, and HGV traffic using the village as a rat run. However, he was hopeful it might be possible for Sec. 106 money to be secured to pay for some safety measures, should there be any housing development in the area. Cllr Stewart emphasised that evidence needed to be collected to show the police dates, times and vehicles speeding, then action could be taken. Some data was also available from the MVAS. Cllr Chilver suggested a community led speeding investigation, and it was agreed this should be investigated further.

### 2. APOLOGIES

Cllrs Graham Hain, Hazel Hedges, Helen Hickman.

### 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Stewart declared an interest in 2a/2b High Street, Whaddon

### 4. MINUTES

The minutes for the previous meeting were adopted and signed.

### 5. UPDATE ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS AND WQ

#### a. Administration

- i. The Clerk reported that a meeting had taken place at Metro Bank and it had been agreed that fees would be refunded. This had been done. However, Mr P Davies, the manager, had agreed to look into the problem further possibly offering a bespoke solution or upgrading the account and waiving the £5 monthly fee for six months. Cllr Stanier reported that preliminary discussions with Handelsbanken had been positive. It was agreed to give Mr Davis some further time to work on a solution, and this would be discussed further at the next meeting.

#### b. Property

- i. Constable's Plot. The Clerk reported that the lease paperwork was still with the tenant's solicitor and this had been chased.
- ii. Recreation Ground. The Clerk reported that a quotation for the remedial works for the recreation ground had been requested from Kompan.

#### c. Highways

- i. Cllr Stewart expressed concern about the state of weeds along the highways. Cllr Chilver stated that all spraying had been discontinued by BCC and devolved to the Parishes. It was pointed out that WPC had not agreed to this. It was agreed that suppliers and costs of this service should be investigated.
- ii. Cllr Stewart advised that the ground screw for the MVAS had been damaged and new screws were needed. He agreed to try to source these.
- iii. Cllr Stewart advised that excellent work had been done to repair the granite sets along the High St. The Clerk advised that no information had been forthcoming

about repairs to the corner of Vicarage Rd, although some potholes had been patched.

- d. Finance
- i. The Clerk presented the annual budget for 2018/19. Cllr Stewart asked for some additional funding for weed control and cleaning of village entrances and cycle tracks, and £575 was agreed. Cllrs agreed the budget and set the Precept at £15,000 with no increase on the previous year.
  - ii. The Clerk presented income and expenditure for approval for the period and bank balances:

**Income**

The following payments have been received:

Various	Misc Interest	£1.52
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**Expenditure**

The following invoices have been received for approval:

111	Fredrick Hayward – July-November 2017 18 visits. WQ Mailing.	£68.40
112	Eon Street Lighting	£230.84
113	NBR Printing WQ November Edition	£312.00
114	Swarco MVAS maintenance agreement	£252.00
115	Eon Street Lighting Maintenance	£125.10
		£988.34

**Bank Balances as at 9/11/17**

Metro Bank Account – current	£7,420.55
Metro Bank Account – deposit	£6,886.71
Metro Bank Account - charity	£2,249.17
	£16,556.43

**6. PLANNING**

- a. Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan. (VALP). Cllr Stewart reviewed progress on VALP and advised the consultation period was underway. On closing the consultation, objections will be summarised and the plan adopted towards the end of 2018. It was agreed to support the removal of WHA001 and support the inclusion of the RAF Halton site for housing. It was agreed that Cllr Stewart would prepare and submit the response to VALP by the deadline of 14<sup>th</sup> December 2017.
- b. Plan MK. Cllr Stewart suggested that the probable intention was to expand east of Milton Keynes. It was agreed that Cllr Stewart would prepare and submit the response to Plan MK by 20<sup>th</sup> December 2017.
- c. Wycombe Local Plan. Cllr Stewart advised that the Wycombe Local Plan included ‘unmet local needs’ for housing and pressure was being put on AVDC to accommodate these needs. However, many sites in Wycombe had significantly lower housing densities than those of Milton Keynes and Aylesbury Vale. It was agreed that Cllr Stewart would prepare a response and submit on behalf of WPC.
- d. 2a/2b High Street. Cllr Stewart, speaking as a member of the public having declared an interest, stated that he was concerned that the walnut tree on his property and adjacent to the village hall had a large bough overhanging the hall. He had requested permission to undertake tree works and crown reduction, which had been refused. He stated that in the event of future problems he would like it understood that he had done everything in his power to make the tree safe.
- e. Shenley Rd Closure. Cllr Stewart advised that some concrete blocks being used to block access had been moved and it was obvious Taylor Wimpey were using this as an illegal short cut. The road remained closed, and Cllr Edith Bold advised that works were close to being finalised. Taylor Wimpey were delaying the top surfacing of the road, and concern was expressed that the reopening would be pushed back again.

7. ALLOTMENTS

- a. The Clerk advised that invoices had been issued for the allotments and notices of non-renewal sent. Josh Jaworski to be asked for a price for reinstating neglected allotments to a good standard.

8. OTHER PARISH MATTERS

- a. Cllr Lemagnen advised that a property developer had purchased a house backing onto woodland in Whaddon Hall, and expressed concern the intention might be to build on the land. It was agreed that a watching brief would be kept.
- b. Cllr Stewart and Cllr White reported that Elmers Charity had sold land and realised approximately £500,000. Whaddon would receive a 2/9<sup>th</sup> share of the resulting investment income which was expected to be around £2-3k per annum. It was hoped more scope could be given on dispersing the money to suitable recipients. Help was available to villages for suitable purposes.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING(S)

The next meeting(s) of Whaddon Parish Council will be 11<sup>th</sup> January 2018.